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U.S.D.A. - Forest Service • State & Private Forestry - Northeastern Area • Broomall, Pennsylvania

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ULV - PESTICIDE ADVISORY OPINION ISSUED BY EPA

An Advisory Opinion was issued by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency which explains EPA's enforcement policy regarding ultra low volume (ULV) pesticide application (Federal Register; July 10, 1979). According to the notice, the use of a pesticide with any dilution less than that specified on a product label (or supplemental labeling) is a violation of Federal law. This means that when mixing pesticides, we cannot use less diluent (e.g. water or other carrier) than approved by labeling instructions.

Essentially it is EPA's opinion that a hazard may result from the use of less dilution (higher concentration) even though the amount of active ingredient applied per unit of area is not increased.

But wait a minute! A second Advisory Opinion will be issued by EPA before next March. The second opinion may allow greater discretion by the user when diluting some pesticides.

NITROFEN - ADVERSE EFFECTS

Adverse effects were reported in experimental animals exposed to nitrofen. Nitrofen, an herbicide, is manufactured and marketed by the Rohm and Haas Company as TOK(R)E-25 and TOK(R)WP-50. These products are registered for use on ornamentals and non-crop sites and have limited use on some nurseries.

Rohm and Haas notified its distributors of the new information about adverse effects and suggests that added precautions be taken by applicators to avoid unnecessary exposure. The Company also notified EPA, and along with other proposed label changes requested that the products be classified as restricted use pesticides.

EPA is expediting examination of the new information and deciding whether the Company's proposed label changes will be adequate to protect the public. Nitrofen could be cancelled or, at least, RPARED.

REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION AGAINST REGISTRATION (RPAR)

The RPAR process begins with EPA saying something like this: "We intend to cancel the registration of your pesticide because we presume it has specific adverse effects (this is the Presumption Against Registration). If you do not agree with this, you can provide evidence to show us that our presumption is wrong (this is the Rebuttal). We will then examine your evidence and our evidence (Risk/Benefit Analysis) and make a decision. Our decision may be to take no action at all; or to begin cancellation proceedings as originally intended, or to make changes in the product label that will eliminate or reduce the risk of adverse effects."

The RPAR process is informal. Its purpose is to stimulate broad public debate and gather information about whether additional controls on the use of a particular pesticide are necessary. RPAR does not mean to stop using a pesticide.

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EPA periodically publishes a status report on all RPAR actions and the list of chemicals currently being considered in EPA's Pre-RPAR review. From this status report and other information obtained from EPA, we are able to provide an update on a few RPARed and Pre-RPARed pesticides.

CARBARYL - Carbaryl is still undergoing Pre-RPAR review. According to EPA, an RPAR notice for carbaryl is becoming "increasingly unlikely." The agency is presently assessing the potential of carbaryl to cause birth defects in humans; so far evidence seems to indicate that carbaryl has no such effect.

ENDRIN - EPA's final decision on endrin (PD #4*) is published in the July 24 Federal Register as part of the Agency's cancellation notice for some uses.

EPA intends to unconditionally cancel some uses of endrin including all of its uses on ornamentals. EPA also intends to cancel the registrations of endrin uses for conifer seed treatment unless registrants modify their labels by adding cautionary statements to reduce risk.

* Position Documents #1, #2/3, and #4 are explained in Pesticide Quarterly No. 2.

- EBDC's - PD #1 comment period on the dithiocarbamates was closed in
(maneb, December 1977. PD #2/3 is almost complete. EPA's proposed
zineb, determination on these fungicides is expected to be
et al) published in the Federal Register before November.
- LINDANE - PD #2/3 is completed. EPA's proposed decision should appear
in the Federal Register in a few weeks.
- 2,4,5-T - Those uses of 2,4,5-T and Silvex which were not affected by
and the March 1 Suspension/Cancellation notice are still geared
SILVEX into the RPAR process. PD #2/3 was "signed off" on July 9
without resolution, i.e. the Agency was unable to reach a
decision. EPA now proposes to incorporate the questions
surrounding the "legal uses" of 2,4,5-T and Silvex into the
upcoming cancellation hearings. It is unlikely anyone will
object to EPA's proposal.

RESTRICTED USE PESTICIDES

EPA has added thirteen (13) active ingredients to its list of restricted use pesticides. (Federal Register, August 1, 1979). This means that many pesticide products containing certain formulations/uses of these active ingredients will be considered restricted use pesticides and limited to use by or under the supervision of a certified applicator.

These thirteen (13) active ingredients are the same as those identified in the March issue of Pesticide Quarterly. EPA decided to withdraw all proposed restrictions on endosulfan, however, until a later date. Endosulfan is therefore not included on the final list.

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The next group of active ingredients to receive classification attention from EPA was published in the August 1 Federal Register. We will identify these active ingredients in a future release as they become final.

PESTICIDE EMERGENCY

1-800-845-7633 is the toll-free telephone number for the National Pesticide Telecommunication Network. This National, 24-hour information service is paid for by EPA to provide consultation and advice on the diagnosis and treatment of pesticide poisoning cases.

You should record this important number in your telephone directory and advise others to do the same.

REGULATIONS BEING DRAFTED FOR AERIAL APPLICATION

Regulations which will control aerial application of pesticides are being drafted by EPA's Registration Division. One part of the regulations will deal with forest use of herbicides; another part will deal with forest use of insecticides.

According to EPA, the regulations will center on such safety requirements as publishing advance notice, posting signs, and establishing buffer zones.

The draft regulations are not scheduled to be completed until April. Public hearings will be held before the draft is final.

NEW PESTICIDE REGISTRATIONS

Ciba-Geigy is marketing a 90% simazine product which is formulated as a water dispersible granule. It is labeled for the same uses as Princep(R) 80 W. The trade name of the new product is Princep(R) Caliber™ 90 (EPA Reg. No. 100-603).

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Thiram is registered as a bird repellant for pine and other coniferous seeds. It is available as GUSTAFSON "42-S" (EPA Reg. No. 7501-14) which is produced and marketed by Gustafson, Inc. The company's address and telephone number is:

Gustafson Inc.
6350 LBJ Freeway
Dallas, TX 75240

Telephone (214) 661-1334

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Garlon(R) 3A, a Dow Chemical product and Trade name, was recently registered (EPA Reg. No. 464-546) by EPA to control woody plants and broad leaf weeds on rights-of-way, and for use in forest site preparation. Garlon contains 44 percent triclopyr as active ingredient. The company says that triclopyr shows selectivity for use in conifer stands but is not yet registered for conifer release. When triclopyr becomes available this product might be a good substitute for 2,4,5-T.

Where trade names are used, no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the USDA - Forest Service is implied.